

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/622,613

Examiner

Sajous Wesner

Applicant(s)

HOJABRI, PEYMAN

Art Unit

2676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/18/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-23.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 4.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1-11 are canceled by Examiner's amendment. Thus, claims 12-23 are presented for examination.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark A. Dalla Valle on January 19, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please delete claims 1-11 without disclaimer.

Drawings

2. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant: please label figures 1 and 2 as "Prior Art". In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because the drawings figures filed 7/18/2003 are not in formality for printing (i.e., they are informal). Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent

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patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 12-23 are allowed over the prior art.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a digital video processing circuitry within which on-screen-display (OSD) information is inserted for display. The digital circuitry imparts halftone to that portion of a video image over which an OSD window superimposed.

The conventional prior art teaches altering the contrast of video image information in coincidence with the introduction of OSD window by implementing digital-to-analog converters (DACs) and analog signal mixers for altering the contrast of the video image information while introducing the OSD information during the OSD window. See at least fig. 2 and its description of the Applicant's admitted prior art.

However, the prior art fail to teach:

a control circuitry that responds to reception of a first reference signal, a halftone control signal, a plurality of contrast control signals and a clamped video signal by providing a first controlled signal with a contrast-controlled video component, wherein said halftone control signal includes first and second signal statuses corresponding to first and second contrast ranges, respectively, for said clamped video signal, said plurality of contrast control signals includes a first portion corresponding to said first video signal contrast range and including, in successive adjacency, a first least significant bit (LSB) signal, at least one first intermediate significance bit (ISB) signal and a first most significant bit (MSB) signal, said contrast-controlled video component, responsive to said first and second halftone control signal statuses, corresponds to said first and

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second video signal contrast ranges, respectively, and said second video signal contrast range is less than said first video signal contrast range, (in conjunction with a first signal combining circuit to combine OSD component; a second control circuitry coupled to the first signal combining circuitry; and a second signal combining circuitry coupled to the second control circuitry that responds to a second combining control signal). Accordingly, the limitations of claims 12-23 of the instant application are allowed over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Box

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, (for formal communications; please mark "EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE")

Or:

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(703) 308-5359 for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

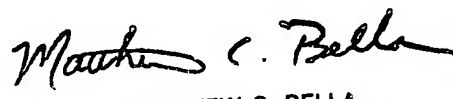
Hand-held delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 6th floor (receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wesner Sajous whose telephone number is (703) 308-5857. The examiner can also be reached on Mondays thru Thursdays and on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Matthew Bella, can be reached at (703) 308-6829. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 308-6606.

Wesner Sajous -WS-

January 21, 2005


MATTHEW C. BELLA
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